

-42-

CLAIMS

1. An image processing method for generating TAG information based on inclusion information which indicates an
5 existence of significant data in code blocks for each of sub-bands, according to JPEG2000 standard, comprising the steps of:

(a) accepting the inclusion information of the code blocks in a predetermined sequence in units of code blocks
10 amounting to a number which is smaller than a number of code blocks of sub-bands in all levels; and

(b) immediately generating and outputting TAG information corresponding to the accepted inclusion information.

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2. The image processing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step (a) inputs the inclusion information of the code blocks of all level-2 and level-3 sub-bands, the inclusion information of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band
20 1HL, the inclusion information of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1LH, and the inclusion information of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HH, in a predetermined sequence.

3. The image processing method as claimed in claim
25 1, further comprising the steps of:

-43-

(c) accepting data of numbers of zero-bit-planes in a predetermined sequence in units of code blocks amounting to a number which is smaller than a number of code blocks of sub-bands of all levels, said zero-bit-planes being bit-planes in which all significant bits of the code blocks in each of the sub-bands are zero; and

(d) immediately generating and outputting ZERO-TAG information corresponding to the accepted numbers of zero-bit-planes, according to the JPEG2000 standard.

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4. The image processing method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said step (c) inputs the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of the code blocks of all level-2 and level-3 sub-bands, the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HL, the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1LH, and the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HH, in a predetermined sequence.

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5. An image processing method for generating ZERO-TAG information based on data of numbers of zero-bit-planes in which all significant bits of code blocks in each of sub-bands are zero, according to JPEG2000 standard, comprising the steps of:

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(a) accepting data of the numbers of zero-bit-planes in

-44-

a predetermined sequence in units of code blocks amounting to a number which is smaller than a number of code blocks of sub-bands of all levels; and

(b) immediately generating and outputting ZERO-TAG

5 information corresponding to the accepted numbers of zero-bit-planes.

6. The image processing method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said step (a) inputs the data of the number of
10 zero-bit-planes of the code blocks of all level-2 and level-3 sub-bands, the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HL, the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1LH, and the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code
15 blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HH, in a predetermined sequence.

7. An image processing apparatus comprising:

a TAG information analyzing circuit to generate TAG information based on inclusion information which indicates an
20 existence of significant data in code blocks for each of sub-bands, according to JPEG2000 standard,

said TAG information analyzing circuit accepting the inclusion information of the code blocks in a predetermined sequence in units of code blocks amounting to a number which
25 is smaller than a number of code blocks of sub-bands in all

-45-

levels, and immediately generating and outputting TAG information corresponding to the accepted inclusion information.

5 8. The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said TAG information analyzing circuit inputs the inclusion information of the code blocks of all level-2 and level-3 sub-bands, the inclusion information of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HL, the inclusion information of
10 all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1LH, and the inclusion information of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HH, in a predetermined sequence.

 9. The image processing apparatus as claimed in
15 claim 7, further comprising:

 a ZERO-TAG information analyzing circuit to generate ZERO-TAG information based on data of numbers of zero-bit-planes in which all significant bits of code blocks in each of sub-bands are zero, according to JPEG2000 standard,

20 said ZERO-TAG information analyzing circuit accepting data of numbers of zero-bit-planes in a predetermined sequence in units of code blocks amounting to a number which is smaller than a number of code blocks of sub-bands of all levels, and immediately generating and outputting ZERO-TAG information
25 corresponding to the accepted numbers of zero-bit-planes.

-46-

10. The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein said ZERO-TAG information analyzing circuit inputs the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of the code blocks of all level-2 and level-3 sub-bands, the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HL, the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1LH, and the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HH, in a predetermined sequence.

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11. An image processing apparatus comprising:

a ZERO-TAG information analyzing circuit to generate ZERO-TAG information based on data of numbers of zero-bit-planes in which all significant bits of code blocks in each of sub-bands are zero, according to JPEG2000 standard,

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said ZERO-TAG information analyzing circuit accepting data of the numbers of zero-bit-planes in a predetermined sequence in units of code blocks amounting to a number which is smaller than a number of code blocks of sub-bands of all levels, and immediately generating and outputting ZERO-TAG information corresponding to the accepted numbers of zero-bit-planes.

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12. The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said ZERO-TAG information analyzing circuit

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-47-

inputs the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of the code blocks of all level-2 and level-3 sub-bands, the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HL, the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all
5 code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1LH, and the data of the number of zero-bit-planes of all code blocks of a level-1 sub-band 1HH, in a predetermined sequence.

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